

AMENDED CLAIMS WRITTEN IN CLEAN FORM:

B1 69. (Amended) A method for the production of 1,2,3-trihydroxybenzene, comprising producing 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroxybenzene in accordance with claim 58 and reducing the 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroxybenzene to 1,2,3-trihydroxybenzene.

105. (New) A method for the production of 1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydroxybenzene, comprising:

- a) incubating, in the presence of a carbon source, a first microbe comprising a recombinant DNA encoding myo-inositol-1-synthase, thereby forming *myo*-inositol;
- b) incubating the *myo*-inositol in the presence of a second microbe which expresses inositol dehydrogenase activity, thereby forming *myo*-2-inosose; and
- c) converting the *myo*-2-inosose to 1, 2, 3, 4-tetrahydroxybenzene by acid catalyzed dehydration.

B2 106. (New) The method of claim 105 wherein the first microbe comprises *INO1*.

107. (New) The method of claim 106 wherein the *INO1* gene comprises a *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* *INO1*.

108. (New) The method of claim 107 wherein *INO1* comprises pAD1.88A.

109. (New) The method of claim 105 wherein the first microbe is an *Escherichia coli*.

110. (New) The method of claim 109 wherein the *Escherichia coli* is JWF1/pAD1.88A.

111. (New) The method of claim 105 wherein the second microbe is *Gluconobacter oxydans*.